

REMARKS

Applicants, through their attorney, gratefully acknowledge the courtesy of a personal interview that was extended by SPE Brian Johnson and Patent Examiner Brian Swenson conducted on January 8, 2003.

During the course of the aforementioned interview, the current amendment to claim 1 was presented for the purpose of discussion and comparison with the references of record taken both alone and in combination with one another.

Furthermore, it was emphasized that none of the prior art of record even remotely suggested the "combination" of a transfer and storage apparatus with seed meters which are not only typically used on corn and soybean planters, but which also have a generally L-shaped flange formed on the opposite sides thereof.

Therefore in the absence of more pertinent prior art, it is sincerely believed that the claims as now presented clearly define patentable subject matter; and, a formal Notice of Allowance based thereon is earnestly solicited.

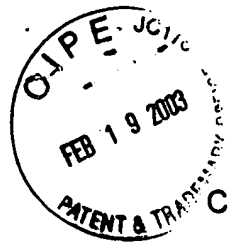
Respectfully submitted,
Paul H. Mears, et al., Applicants

By William H. Wright
William H. Wright
Reg. No. 26,424

Dated: January 9, 2003

STURM & FIX, LLP
1301 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Suite 1020
Washington, D.C. 20004-1707
(202) 296-3854

B



Version with markings to show changes made

Claim 1. (Amended) A seed meter transfer and storage apparatus [for storing] in combination with seed meters of a type that are used on a corn or soybean planter and having a generally L-shaped flange disposed on each side thereof, said apparatus comprising:

a frame;

a plurality of upwardly extending members operatively attached to said frame, each of said members being spaced a pre-determined distance from each adjacent member; and,

a slot disposed in the top of each member for receiving the flange on each side of a seed meter whereby one seed meter can be stored between each adjacent member.

RECEIVED
FEB 21 2003
GROUP 3600

B